



Week 1 Assignment #2 -- Analysis of Research Report Article: Action Research

Overview

One of the goals of this course is to teach students to read and interpret research reports. This is the first of several assignments you will complete throughout the course in which you will analyze and critique a research article.

Directions

You will type your responses on a separate Word document that you create. To submit your assignment, you will click on the open button, attach your work, and submit.

Use the rubric on the final page of this document to guide your work.

The reading by Prebel and Taylor, *School Climate Through Students' Eyes*, is included in this week's reading assignment. You will use this reading to complete this assignment.

Before beginning this assignment, you may wish to view the Resource document, *Analysis of Research Report Analysis Model: Action Research*, based on the article by Ginsberg and Brown, "A Day's Worth of Data."

- On the next page, you will find a series of questions about the reading. Respond to all of the seven elements with an explanation, discussion, or example from the article.
- Your answers should be brief – two to three sentences.
- Credit will not be given for simple 'yes' or 'no' responses, or restating the question.
- You are expected to use text citations throughout your work. Ensure that citations are in the correct format as identified in the 5th edition of the APA Style guide.
- Use the grading rubric included with this assignment as a guideline to complete your work.

APA Reference

- Provide the APA reference for the research report article assigned for this assignment.

Problem/Purpose

- What is the purpose or problem for research and is it clearly stated?
- Does the purpose have practical or theoretical value?

Literature Review

- Do(es) the researcher(s) critically evaluate previous findings or only summarize what is known?
- Does this literature review support the need for the research and relate previous studies to the purpose or problem for research?

Research Questions

- Are the research questions or hypothesis consistent with any known facts or a theory?
- Does the research purpose address professional practice? Briefly explain.

Methodology

- Are the procedures, design, and instruments employed sufficiently described to allow another researcher to replicate the study?
- Is the sample or population fully described?
- (Action Research) Were there multiple methods of data collection?

Results

- (Action Research) Does suggested action follow logically?
- (Action Research) Did findings lead to or result in a change of practice?
- (Action Research) Has implementation of targeted change improved the targeted participant outcomes?

Discussion, Implications, Conclusions

- Are the conclusions and generalizations consistent with the findings?
- List some specific implications of the findings. (Minimum of two)
- Do(es) the researcher(s) discuss limitations of the study?

Rubric

Use the following Rubric to guide your work on Week 1 Assignment #2.

Tasks ↓	Accomplished 10-8 points	Proficient 7-6 points	Needs Improvement 5-0 points
APA Reference	Reference is formatted according to APA standards with no errors.	Major components of reference formatted according to APA with not more than three minor formatting errors.	Reference is not formatted according to APA standards.
Problem/Purpose	Article's purpose or research problem is clearly stated; practical or theoretical value is presented and discussed	Article's purpose or research problem and/or the practical or theoretical value is briefly re-stated.	Purpose or research question and practical or theoretic value are not properly identified and/or stated.
Literature Review	The quality and choice of literature is discussed and linked to the need and value of the research reported in the article.	Literature reviewed is listed with brief comments relating the literature to the purpose of problem.	Fragments from the literature review are briefly restated without comments.
Research Questions	Research questions or hypothesis is identified and relationship to theory is discussed. The link between the research purpose and professional practice is discussed.	Research question or hypothesis is correctly identified with little or no discussion of relation to theory or facts. The relationship to professional practice is identified.	The research question or hypothesis is not properly identified, or no theory or explanation of purpose is offered.
Methodology	Methodology, study design instrumentation, sample and data collection methods are cited and discussed. Replicability is addressed.	Most elements of research design are listed with a brief comment about replicating the study.	A few elements of the method, design, instrumentation, sample or data collection are listed without discussion.
Results	Full discussion of findings is linked to the action plan.	Action plan, change of practice and participant outcomes results is only summarized or briefly re-stated with finding result.	Response to template prompt presented as sentence or fragment with no discussion.
Discussion, Implementations, Conclusions	All elements listed in template are presented and supported.	All elements listed in the template are included.	Research is not correctly presented or missing elements.